MYTHS OF HALLOWEEN.

DRIGIN OF SOME OF THE LEGENDS THAT ATTACH TO OCT. 31.

A Period Dear to Romantic Young Men and Maidens-Old Formulas Used to Decide the All Important Question as to Who Would Be the Bride or the Groom.

From its first organization Halloween has been invested with a peculiarly mystic character. It is an almost universal superstition that supernatural influences then have unusual power; that devils, witches and fairies are abroad; that all spirits are free to roam through space, and that the spiritual elements in all living humanity can be detached from corporeal restraint and made to read its own future or to reveal to others what fate may have in store for them. As there is nothing in the church celebration of the ensuing day of All Saints' to justify these singular ideas and customs associated with Halloween, and as none of them are of a religious character we may justly regard them as relics of pagan

READING THE FUTURE. In all ages and countries Halloween has been deemed, as it still is, the occasion par excellence for divining the answer to that momentous question which absorbs so large a share of the thoughts of romantic young men and maidens, "Who is to marry whom?" The means employed to gain this much desired information are as quaint and curious as they are numerous and varied. For this purpose every time and every countryalmost every district of every countryhas had its own charms and spells peculiar to itself, and they have furnished an almost inexhaustible theme to folk poets

and compilers of folk-lore. Those of Scotland have been most graphically described by that greatest of all poets of the people, Robert Burns. In his poem of "Halloween" he has given us a most vivid account of more than half a score of Halloween charms and spells peculiar to the Scottish peasantry.

In a very old book of folk lore called "Ye True Arte to Reade Ye Future," is found the following:

If a maid would know ye name of ye man she is to marry let her on All-Halloween steal out to a lime kiin and throw therein a clue of blue yarn, still holding to ye other end. Presently ye end in yel kiln will be sharply pulled. Then ye maid must say "Who holds?" Whereupon ye voice of her future husband will pronounce his name both ye Christian and ye surname.

The only obstacle to the successful performance of this spell is the difficulty of finding an old lime kiln, but as lime kilns will be in great demand among our women when the important statement made in the above paragraph becomes generally known, and as a demand for any article in this country is speedily met by an abundant supply the number of lime kilns will doubtless soon be largely augmented, to the great delight of anxious, match-making mammas and heir dutiful offspring

YE MYSTERIES. Water, nuts and apples hear a prominent part in the spells and charms of Halloween. A quaint old book of charms published in Edinburgh in 1670, entitled "Old Father Time's Bundle of Faggots Newly Eound Up," declares that an infallible means of getting a view of your future husband or wife is to go to bed Halloween with a glass of water, in which a small sliver of wood has been placed, standing on a table by your bedside. In the night you will dream of falling from a bridge into the river, and of being rescued by your future wife or husband, whom you will see as distinctly as though viewed with waking eyes. This charm is thus alluded to by the English poet Gay:

Last Halloween I longed my love to see, And tried a spell to call her up to me. With wood and water standing by my side W dreamed a dream and saw my own sweet

bride folk-lore book, called "Ye Mys-In a fothe Wytchcraft," there is given teries of theby which a maid may know if a charm "by loves be true." To perform ye man she love is directed to pluck at this, the maid ill Halloween two monthmidnight on All I stems, naming one for ly roses with long ster for her lover. She herself and the other 7tly to her sleeping must then go directly to any one, and room without speaking t must twine the kneeling beside her bed mu together and stems of the two roses to lines, mean-then repeat the following lin the rose while gazing intently upon t. named for her lover:

Twine, twine, and intertwine; Let my love be wholly mine. If his heart be kind and true Deeper grow his rose's hue.

If her swain be faithful, the color of the rose representing him will grow 1 1-4 " darker and more intense. Of all the 1.4.2" " ciated with nuts, one of the oldest is that which prevails in some of England's northern counties, and which is to the effect that if a young man or woman will go at midnight Halloween to a walnut tree and walk around it three times, crying out each time: "Let him (or her) that is to be my true love bring me some walnuts," the future wife or husband will be seen in the tree gathering its fruit. The poet Gay thus refers in his "Pastorals" to this custom:

Last Halloween I sought a walnut tree In hopes my true love's face that I might see; Three times I called, three times I walked apace, Then in the tree I saw my true love's face.

-- Chicago Times.

Gas and Electric Light. The influence of gas and electric light on the colors of textile fabrics used for furniture coverings, draperies or carpets, is a matter which should be clearly understood by every retail salesman who is employed in stores where such goods are sold, for to the purchasers of these fabrics the effect they produce under artificial light is usually a highly important consideration. In many establishments rooms are arranged for showing fabrics by gas and electric light, but it is often desirable for the salesman to be able to give a customer some trustworthy information on this subject without removing the goods in question from the spot where they are being examined .-

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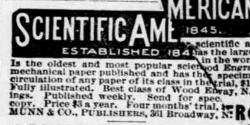
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